**Whale Watching:**

1. **BE CAUTIOUS and COURTEOUS:** approach areas of known or suspected marine wildlife activity with extreme caution. Look in all directions before planning your approach or departure.
2. **SLOW DOWN:** reduce speed to less than 7 knots when within 400 metres/yards of the nearest whale. Avoid abrupt course changes.
3. **KEEP CLEAR** of the whales’ path. If whales are approaching you, cautiously move out of the way.
4. **DO NOT APPROACH** whales from the front or from behind. Always approach and depart whales from the side, moving in a direction parallel to the direction of the whales.
5. **DO NOT APPROACH** or position your vessel closer than 100 metres/yards to any whale.
6. If your vessel is not in compliance with the 100 metres/yards approach guideline (#5), place engine in neutral and allow whales to pass.
7. **STAY on the OFFSHORE side of the whales** when they are traveling close to shore.
8. **LIMIT your viewing time** to a recommended maximum of 30 minutes. This will minimize the cumulative impact of many vessels and give consideration to other viewers.
9. **DO NOT swim with, touch or feed marine wildlife.**

**Seals, sea lions and birds on land:**

1. **BE CAUTIOUS AND QUIET** when around haul-outs and bird colonies, especially during breeding, nesting and pupping seasons (generally May to September).
2. **REDUCE SPEED**, minimize wake, wash and noise, and then slowly pass without stopping.
3. **AVOID** approaching closer than 100 metres/yards to any marine mammals or birds.
4. **PAY ATTENTION** and move away, slowly and cautiously, at the first sign of disturbance or agitation.
5. **DO NOT** disturb, move, feed or touch any marine wildlife, including seal pups. If you are concerned about a potentially sick or stranded animal, contact your local stranding network where available.

**Marine Protected Areas, Wildlife Refuges, Ecological Reserves and Parks:**

1. **CHECK** your nautical charts for the location of various protected areas.
2. **ABIDE by posted restrictions** or contact a local authority for further information.

**To report a marine mammal disturbance or harassment:**

**CANADA:**
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada: 1-800-465-4336
**US:**
- NOAA Fisheries, Office for Law Enforcement: 1-800-853-1964

**To report marine mammal sightings:**
- BC Cetacean Sightings Network (BC): www.wildwhales.org or 1-866-154W ONE
- The Whale Museum Hotline (WA state): 1-800-562-8832
- Orca Network (WA state): info@orcanetwork.org or 1-866-ORCANET

**Need more information?**

**CANADA:**
- Victoria and Southern Gulf Islands: Marine Mammal Monitoring Project (M3) www.salishsea.ca or 250-383-2086
- Johnstone Strait and Northern Vancouver Island: Straitwatch www.straitwatch.org or 250-974-7064
- Robson Bight (Michael Bigg) Ecological Reserve: www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/eca_reserve/robsontber
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada: www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

**US:**
- Washington State, Haro Strait Region: Soundwatch Boater Education Program www.soundwatchprogram.org or 360-378-4710
- NOAA Fisheries, Northwest Region: www.nwr.noaa.gov
- NOAA Fisheries, Office of Protected Species: www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/education/viewing
- Whale Watch Operators Association NW: www.nwwhalewatchers.org

**NO-GO ZONE**

- 400 m/yd SLOW ZONE
- 100 m/yd NO-GO ZONE
- 100 m/yd SLOW ZONE
- 400 m/yd NO-GO ZONE

**Bow and stern-riding porpoises and dolphins:**

1. **DO NOT drive through groups of** porpoises or dolphins to encourage bow or stern-riding.
2. Should dolphins or porpoises choose to ride the bow wave of your vessel, avoid sudden course changes. Hold course and speed or reduce speed gradually.